

QUESTIONS OF FAITH

MAY 21, 2023 / CAN SELF-DENIAL REALLY BE THE WAY TO TRUE LIFE? / LUKE 9:18-25

LUKE 9:18-25 RECORDS A WELL-QUOTED CONVERSATION BETWEEN JESUS AND PETER ABOUT IDENTITY. DO YOU SEEK YOUR IDENTITY FROM THE WORLD, YOUR INNER VOICE, OR IN THE GOSPEL AND THE PERSON OF JESUS? THIS QUESTION IS CENTRAL TO DISCIPLESHIP AND A PLACE WHERE THE TRUE MEANING OF LIFE IS FOUND.

Read Luke 9:18-25.

1. In what ways does the culture seek to influence the way you see yourself or define who you are?
2. Why is it important at times to deny yourself things you want (Luke 9:23)? (see Romans 7:18-19; Titus 2:11-14)
3. What is the core truth Jesus is conveying here (Luke 9:24)? (see Acts 20:35)
4. What is your most recent experience of denying yourself to meet another person's needs?
5. What does it mean that we lose our lives for Jesus (Luke 9:24)? (see Mark 10:29; Ephesians 3:18-19)
6. Where might God call you to deny yourself for a greater service today?

Holy Spirit, lead me to a greater surrender of my small ambitions so that I might serve others more fully today.